

Serial No. 09/475,961

9D-EC-19335

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Timothy J. Smith et al. : Group Art Unit:
Serial No. 09/475,961 : Examiner:
Filed: December 30, 1999 : Paper No.
For: Delivery Management System

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

To the Assistant Commissioner of Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before the first Office Action on the merits please amend the above captioned application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 2, please delete "60/_____, filed on November __, 1999" and insert thereof -60/163,298, filed on November 3, 1999--.

On page 1, line 5, please delete "(____/____)" and insert thereof --09/475,630--.

On page 1, line 6, please delete "December ____" and insert thereof -December 30,--.

On page 1, line 8, please delete "(____/____)" and insert thereof -09/475,962--.

On page 1, line 9, please delete "December ____" and insert thereof -December 30, --.

On page 5, line 22, please delete "____/____" and insert thereof --09/475,630--.

On page 5, line 23, please delete "____/____" and insert thereof -09/457,962--.

On page 5, line 29, please delete "____/____" and insert thereof -09/475,961--.

On page 14, line 22, please delete "____/____" and insert thereof -09/475,962--.

On page 15, line 13, please delete "____/____" and insert thereof -09/475,962--.

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims:

41. A method of managing the delivery of an multiple brand order, from at least two suppliers to a respective delivery agent, and from the delivery agent to a respective buyer, given order information, said method comprising the steps of:

determining a first potential arrival date of the order to a respective delivery agents location, based on the order request date and the buyer's address;

determining the ability of the respective delivery agent to ship the multiple brand order from the at least two suppliers based the first potential arrive date request; and